

24th July, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

News-Item "If Delhi Has to Live, NCR Must become a reality"

155. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the **MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the contents of the news item captioned "If Delhi has to live, NCR must become a reality" appearing in the Times of India, dated the 29th May, 2000;

(b) whether it is a fact that if Delhi has to survive the population boom, the NCR concept and plan must become a reality and care should be taken of the smaller issues than the ambitious multi-crore projects; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking in this direction to make Delhi livable?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) (i) To reduce the population pressure on Delhi a concept of developing a broad area consisting of Delhi and a few ring towns around it was conceived in the First Master Plan of Delhi 1962. Later, with the enactment of the National Capital Region Planning Board Act, 1985 a National Capital Region of 30, 242 sq. kms, consisting of Delhi and parts of the adjoining areas of the neighbouring States was delineated. The Government has constituted a National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) for evolving a plan for the development of this Region and to co-ordinate & monitor the implementation of that plan.

(ii) The Board has taken the following steps:—

- (i) The Board has drawn up and notified a regional plan for NCR, which envisages development of six Delhi Metropolitan Area Towns and eight Priority Towns within the NCR and five counter Magnet Towns located outside the boundaries of the Region.
- (ii) The Board has extended financial assistance to the participating states for projects which includes projects for creation of infrastructure.
- (iii) A number of feasibility studies/functional plans for upgradation of urban services have also been carried out by the Board.